

ELDER LAW AND DISABILITY RIGHTS SECTION

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The Honorable Coleman A. Young, II
State Representative
S588 House Office Bldg.
Lansing, MI 48909-7514

Dear Representative Young:

I am writing on behalf of the Elder Law and Disability Rights Section (ELDRS) of the State Bar of Michigan. The purpose of this letter is to express the **ELDRS strong support for HB 5028, as well as our gratitude to you for taking on this important issue.** As you are aware, ELDRS is a section of the State Bar of Michigan, and the position of this section does not imply the support of the State Bar of Michigan

It is our belief that Michigan has long needed legislation, like HB 5028, which is designed to protect people with disabilities. It is admirable that you have become a champion for those that need it the most, people with disabilities. We believe that HB 5028 is well intentioned and that its passing will allow for greater quality of life, care and advocacy for people with disabilities.

Further we believe from a public policy standpoint, the pooled trust is an excellent planning tool, as once the individual is deceased either the State is reimbursed, the funds are used for another individual with disabilities, or is retained by the non-profit to benefit other organizations or individuals with disabilities. It is also one of the only planning methods for those over age 65 that renders a direct discernable benefit in their quality of life and quality of care.

That said, we have some comments on your bill, and suggestions for what we believe could be improvements to your bill. Specifically, we have some concerns in regard to Sections 4 and 5 of you proposed bill which we would like to address with you as soon as possible.

Thank you again for your willingness to help protect people with disabilities.

Sincerely yours,

/S/ Don L. Rosenberg

Don L. Rosenberg
Chair, Elder Law and Disability Rights Section